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PART--I-- Orders and Notifications by the Government of Tripura, The High Court, Government Treasury etc.

GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SECRETARY

No.F.2(1)/CS/H&FW/2020

Dated, 14th September, 2020.

ORDER

Subject: Guidelines for Vishwakarma Puja Festival, 2020.

Whereas it has come to the notice of the State Government that there is spread of COVID-19 occurring in different parts of the State which poses a major threat to public health, hygiene and safety of the people and it is also felt that unless measures are put in place to contain the spread of the pandemic there is a chance of large scale spread of COVID-19 in the population which is likely to cause loss of human lives.

AND

Whereas despite taking several measures to contain the spread, it appears that COVID-19 pandemic may continue during Vishwakarma Puja on 17.09.2020

AND

Whereas it is considered necessary to issue guidelines for the Vishwakarma Puja Festival, 2020 to limit the spread of COVID -19 through its transmission.

NOW

I, therefore, in the capacity of Chairman, State Executive Committee, in exercise of the power conferred under Section 24 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, direct all clubs/Puja Committees/Household Puja Organizers and other stakeholders to follow the guidelines given in Annexure-1 below during Puja Celebrations. Non- compliance of the guidelines shall attract action as per law.

(Manoj Kumar) Chief Secretary & Chairman, State

Annexure - 1

Guidelines for Vishwakarma Puja Festival, 2020

- Puja Should be celebrated with simplicity and maintaining social distancing.
- There should not be any procession during bringing the idol to Puja Mandops / Pandals.
- 3. The community puja may be held in open spaces to the extent feasible. There should be open Puja Mandops / Pandals so that idol is clearly visible from a distance. Puja Mandops with entry-exist system & obstructions for movement and viewing will not be allowed.
- 4. Only 5 to 10 visitors should be allowed at a time in front of the pandal maintaining a physical distance of atleast one meter. Proper marking for standing of visitors behind the persons in front should be done by the Puja Organizers.
- Required number of volunteers should be kept ready for maintaining physical distancing of the visitors in coordination with security personnel.
- Puja Committees should not organize any entertainment programme during the Puja day.
- Puja Committees should not arrange for any extravagant lighting in the Pandals which may attract excessive gathering of visitors.
- 8. All the members of the Organizing Committees / Volunteers and visitors should wear mask during Puja day. The Organizing Committees should arrange sufficient mask to distribute if any visitor comes without a mask. Hand sanitizers and hand wash should be arranged for all visitors at entry point as well as common areas.
- 9. All the Puja pandals should be sanitized atleast three times in the Puja day. The bamboo, rope etc used for regulating crowd may particularly be sanitized on regular interval. Necessary arrangements may be made for the same.

- 10. There should be arrangement of thermal screening of visitors in all Puja Mandops / Pandals. If any visitor with high temperature is detected, local health authority may be contacted for necessary action.
- Prasad distribution may be avoided. Common feast in a group will not be allowed.
- 12. In the domestic celebrations of Vishwakarma Puja, invitees should be limited to 15 to 20 persons and all should wear mask and maintain physical distancing.
- There will be night curfew during puja day which should be followed strictly.
- 14. The District / Police administration should keep close surveillance on the gathering in the premises of Vishwakarma Puja Pandals / Mandops in coordination with Municipal authorities, and other departments. The District Administration may impose further restrictions to ensure law and order, movement of vehicles, least gathering, etc as per the situation.
- 15. This year, Mahalaya will also be celebrated on the same day as Vishwakarma Puja that is on 17.09.2020. Any kind of procession/ gathering in the roads and parks in the morning is prohibited. The District/Police Administration should keep close vigilance and take necessary action as per settled norms.

To

- 1. Additional Chief Secretray, Govt. of Tripura.
- All Principal Secretaries/Secretaries/Special Secretaries, Govt. of Tripura.
- 3. Director General of Police (In-charge), Govt. of Tripura.
- 4. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest. Govt. of Tripura.
- All DM & Collectors. They are also requested to communicate the guidelines to all Puja Committees and other stakeholders.
- All Superintendents of Police.
- 7. All Head of Departments, Govt. of Tripura.
- 8. Presidents/Secretaries of all Puja Committees.